

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/654,965

Applicant(s)

OHTSUKI, HISASHI

Examiner

Art Unit

Frantz F. Jules

3617

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 03/10/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 2, 4-6, 8 and 9.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 09/27/2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

REASON FOR ALLOWANCE

1. Silvasi and Kenji disclose various types of wheel support bearing for rotatably supporting a wheel relative to a vehicle body structure comprising an outer member having an outer peripheral surface formed with a vehicle body fitting flange for securement of the wheel support bearing assembly to a knuckle made of an aluminum alloy, the outer member also having an inner peripheral surface formed with raceways, an inner member having a wheel mounting flange formed at one end thereof and also having raceways defined therein in alignment with the raceways in the outer member, rows of rolling elements positioned between the raceways in the outer member and the raceways in the inner member, respectively, and an anti-corrosion layer provided at a surface area of contact between the outer member and the knuckle. Frantz et al discloses a heat sealing apparatus to form a longitudinal seal in a flat sheet of flexible film comprising a heating element disposed between a thick thermal insulating block and a bearing disk. The bearing disk is disposed between the heating element and a seal wheel. The heating element is made up of an electrical resistance layer sandwiched between two layers of thermally conductive synthetic resin to electrically isolate the resistor element of the heater. Yamamoto discloses a coupling system for joining pressure resistant pipe comprising a self-seal type gasket of an internal mounting on the pressure receiving side wherein a joint structure having flexibility is formed and which is capable of providing electrolytic corrosion for a composite metal piping. However, none of the references of record suggests a wheel support bearing assembly comprising an electrically insulating layer provided at a surface area of

contact between the outer member and the knuckle, wherein the coating layer of the electrically insulating layer is formed by a powder coating in the manner defined in the instant claim 1 and in combination with other limitation of the claims. Also, none of the references of record suggests a wheel support bearing assembly comprising an electrically insulating layer provided at a surface area of contact between the outer member and the knuckle, wherein the electrically insulating layer comprising a plated ply with a chromate treated layer thereon and a coating layer functioning as an electric insulator in the manner defined in the instant claim 9 and in combination with other limitations of the claim. Therefore, claims 2-6, and 8, depending therefrom, are considered to be allowable.

Conclusion

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Frantz F. Jules whose telephone number is (703) 308-8780. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday and every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph S. Morano can be reached on (703) 308-0230. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Frantz F. Jules
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3617

FFJ

March 17, 2005

FRANTZ F. JULES
PRIMARY EXAMINER

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frantz', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.